

# GREENBELT News Review

## Beat The Rush

Please give us your copy on Mondays or at least by noon on Tuesdays. We are trying not to get swamped Tuesday nights.

Volume 61, Number 15

15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

Thursday, March 5, 1998

## TERP Grant Money To Be Used For Purchasing Gas-Driven Vans

by Virginia Beauchamp

With a unanimous vote at the regular meeting on February 23, the Greenbelt City Council agreed to participate further in the State of Maryland's Transportation Emission Reduction Program (TERP). By providing a 20 per cent funding match, the city can use state TERP grant money toward the purchase of a second natural gas-powered van for about \$19,000. The city's share would be \$3,800.

The purpose is to purchase a cargo van for a city electrician's use. A natural gas-powered passenger van is currently operated by the Department of Recreation.

According to City Manager Mike McLaughlin, the city may also be able to acquire a slow-fill natural gas pump under the program for fueling both vehicles. The pump is expected to cost less than \$7,000 — of which the city's share would be about \$1,400.

### Why Not Quick-fill?

Councilmember Rodney Roberts immediately objected. He doubted that a slow-fill pump would be cost-effective. Although it could be used to fuel two vehicles simultaneously, the process would take all night, he pointed out. If the city acquired more such vehicles in the future, it would be

hard to keep them fueled up.

At around \$100,000, the cost for a quick-fill pump was prohibitive, city Management Analyst Bo Ferguson said. An earlier proposal by the gas company to

**The city's share would be \$3,800.**

install such a pump in Greenbelt had failed, McLaughlin said, when the city was unable to find a more public site than the city's maintenance yard to use as a regional facility. The city had hoped to find space at the limo site beside the armory, he added. In the meantime Washington Gas "pulled away" from the offer.

McLaughlin said that the slow-fill pump would be satisfactory for refueling the city's vehicles, since they could be assigned on a rotating basis. The vans were estimated to be able to reach a minimum of 200 miles on a single filling. Currently, somewhat inconveniently, the passenger van is refilled at a Shell station on U.S. 1.

TERP funds were still available, McLaughlin said, because about \$19,000 of a 1996 grant to the city had not yet been spent. The first van had cost less than anticipated, he said, and a con-

crete island for the earlier planned pump was not needed. Bicycle racks, also listed in the original TERP grant proposal, had not yet been installed. The creation of bus shelters, part of the original agreement, is underway, he said.

Mayor Judith Davis was concerned about setting aside the commitment for installing additional bike racks. But Ferguson said that money might still be available for that purpose. He believed that the estimate for the city's cost for the van and the pump was "conservative."

### Auditors' Recommendations

Present at the council meeting was Daniel Chaney, audit manager for Keller Bruner & Company, which has completed its audit of the city's fiscal year 1997 accounts ending on June 30. The firm brought to the city's attention three new accounting issues and recommended two operational improvements.

Foremost is a major concern throughout the world — preparation for the impact of the Year 2000 on computer systems. On this issue McLaughlin believes the city is well positioned, since the two major systems — that for the Police Department and for the Finance Department — will have been replaced. (The former is

See COUNCIL, page 6

## \$300 Million for Schools Allocated to End Busing

by Mary Moien

Governor Parris Glendening has proposed \$300 million in State aid to Prince George's County to help end court-ordered busing. In a February 26 letter to Judge Peter Messitte outlining the proposal, Glendening states that "Through the determined efforts of the NAACP, the commitment of the County and the school board, and the vigilance of the Court, an historic moment is at hand." Messitte is presiding over Vaughns v. Board of Education of Prince George's County. A decision on ending years of busing for desegregation is expected by June.

The \$300 million includes \$75 million in next year's budget, which is currently under discussion, as well as \$75 million in each of the following three budget years. One hold-up to the end of busing in the county has been the lack of money to build and renovate neighborhood schools for children who will be returning. Glendening has indicated he will work with the State's Interagency Committee on School Construction and the Board of Public Works to recommend school construction funding for fiscal years 2000 through 2002 at a level similar to the \$35 million allocated for next year. That represents almost half of the \$75 million. In addition, the county received \$20 million for school construction in the

current budget.

Because of the importance of the magnet school program as a desegregation tool in the County, Glendening has proposed that at least \$14 million be provided for this program by State funding for each year through 2002. For fiscal year 1999, almost \$10 million will be allocated for economically disadvantaged children and for similar programs. An additional \$2 million will be provided next year to non-magnet schools serving racially non-diverse school populations.

A similar amount will be allocated for the improvement of teacher quality and training. Under newly proposed legislation entitled the School Accountability Funding for Excellence Program, strict accountability measures will be required of the county on the use of these monies.

"This is a very positive, constructive step toward the resolution of this historic lawsuit," said Dr. Alvin Thornton, President of the Prince George's County School Board, one of the defendants in the suit. However, State budgets are approved on an annual basis, not future-funded, so money is not completely assured over the time period.

The governor stated, however: "I am prepared to use my best efforts to secure \$300 million over the next four years for the Prince George's County school system."

## Grass-Roots Effort To Reopen Area School May Be Successful

by Angie Noyes

After a 17 year hiatus, Berwyn Heights Elementary School is making strides towards reopening its doors as a neighborhood school. Enrollment in public schools fell dramatically across Prince Georges County after the 1973 federally mandated desegregation guidelines were issued, and the County School Board responded by closing 16 schools, including Berwyn Heights Elementary in June 1981. The project to reopen is supported by a formal resolution from the Berwyn Heights Town Council endorsed by the Four Cities Coalition of Berwyn Heights, Greenbelt, College Park, and

New Carrollton, promoted by state legislators representing Berwyn Heights and advocated by Governor Glendening.

Since 56 children from Berwyn Heights now attend Springhill Lake Elementary, the reopening of Berwyn Heights Elementary would help in some measure to alleviate the overcrowded condition of the Springhill Lake school. The most optimistic estimate for the reopening is September of 2000.

If the Prince George's County race-based busing policy is abolished, Springhill Lake Elementary would experience additional changes in its population. Student demographics would remain about the same, but children attending Springhill Lake could walk to school instead of being bused in from outlying areas. According to Springhill Lake Elementary principal Linda Sherwood, a change to a neighborhood school would bring with it more parent participation and community involvement, a key to success in schools.

### Grass-roots Efforts Can Work

Indeed, parent and community activism is the most in-

triguing and inspiring aspect of the story of efforts to reopen Berwyn Heights Elementary. In addition to having a direct impact on Springhill Lake Elementary, the endeavor is an encouragement from Berwyn Heights to Greenbelt that grass-roots efforts can work to bring about positive change.

Ann Davidson, a citizen of Berwyn Heights and the mother of one school-aged child, attended a Berwyn Heights town meeting in 1995. The Prince George's County Neighborhood Schools Plan was being discussed, and mention was made of the plan to reopen four community elementary schools that had previously been closed in the county. Davidson began asking, "Why isn't Berwyn Heights Elementary on the list?"

Berwyn Heights needed a neighborhood school, in Davidson's opinion, and reopening the existing school made perfect sense to her. Most local public schools were near or over capacity. The cost of building a new elementary school was generally about \$11.5 million plus land acquisition costs. Couldn't the

See GRASS ROOTS, page 5



Czech Republic native Katherine Svobobova enjoys her visit with friends in Greenbelt because it is a small city and she can get around without a car. She is used to Prague's good public transportation.

## Czech Teen Sees the City As Window on America

by Katherine Svobobova

*Editor's note: In October 1997, Katherine Svobobova, 19, traveled from her home in Prague, Czech Republic, to stay with friends in Greenbelt. Below, she writes about her observations on the United States in general and about Greenbelt in particular. Svobobova will return to Prague at the end of March.*

Greenbelt is a small town, so I do not feel too overwhelmed by it. I like walking, and it is

easy to walk in Greenbelt. I do not need a car to get around. I do not know how to drive anyway. I am used to taking a tram, bus, or a metro to cross Prague. Many people use public transportation to get from place to place, and it never takes a long time.

However, traveling in the United States is completely different from Europe. I surprise a few Americans, telling them I walk for 15 minutes. Nobody walks anywhere or people are in

See CZECH page 16

### What Goes On

**Mon., March 9, 8 p.m.**  
City Council Meeting, Municipal Building

**Wed., March 11, 7:30 p.m.**  
City Council Worksession with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, Community Center

**Thurs., March 12, 7:30 p.m.**  
GHI Board Meeting, Hamilton Place



## Take a Walk in Our Number One Park

We urge city council-members and city staff to walk around Greenbelt Lake in Buddy Attick Park on a sunny day. It doesn't matter if the day is cold or warm, mid-week or week-end. They will find the park filled with Greenbelters and nonresidents alike.

Not only is this the city's largest public park, it is the most used. On any nice day the councilmembers will find walkers, joggers, bicyclists, dog-walkers, children feeding ducks and geese, fishermen, bird watchers and beaver watchers. In warmer weather, they can see picnickers, ballplayers, playground users, concertgoers and more.

While councilmembers take their walk, we suggest they take a good look at the park itself. They will find examples of neglect and substandard facilities. These cannot be attributed to the failure of the Public Works Department or the city's park crews — who have become reluctant to improve the park for fear of criticism from councilmembers and others who are opposed to change. Even the park master plan essentially calls for little to be done. In our view, more needs to be done.

When and if councilmembers and staff take their walks, we ask them to take a close look at the problem areas. Please note the many types of surfaces along the lake path, ranging from mud to pavement, and the lack of proper drainage. Take a good look at the peninsula and the stunted scrub trees and dead wood and debris that line its shore.

Stand at the entrance to the park from the parking lot and note the lawn that is struggling to survive from lack of nutrients and heavy foot traffic. While there, look also at that eyesore in the middle of the lawn: the bandstand. Not only does it look bad, it is unsuitable for concerts. Also there's no covered group picnic area.

Try to push a stroller along the chipped path to the playground and chemical toilets. Feel free to use them, if one is available there, but hold your nose. And if it smells too bad, explain to a visiting child why she has to use the woods.

Please don't forget to enjoy the view of the lake as you stand on the path at the concession stand. See the shack-like building with its dark green visage, rotting doors and tree stump garden.

We think that a city that prides itself on its landscaped streets, its community-oriented Schrom Hills Park, its renovated historic community center, its fabulous aquatic center and its upgraded Roosevelt Center can and should do better in caring for and beautifying its number one park.

## Letters

### Open Letter

Dear Mayor Davis and Council Members:

As you consider renovation of the Roosevelt Center, I urge you to rethink the choice of London plane trees as landscape plantings. London plane trees are of the sycamore family and have the distinct character of being one of nature's gifts that remains unattractive through all four seasons of the year:

Flowers in spring? No.

Leaf-out well in summer? No.

Good fall color? No.

Gracefully branched in winter? No.

Please ask resident horticulturist Bill Phelan to recommend a mix of flowering and street trees to grace the City Center. Consider the linden, willow oak, red oak, and new disease-resistant elm. The elm-like Zelcovia is another possibility, along with small flowering trees. I remember well the beautiful deciduous magnolias in full bloom at the Center in the early 1970s, before they were sacrificed to plant the Bradford pears.

Think carefully about trees before replacing them with an inferior product. The library parking lot still appears naked and bakes in the summer sun after several nearly mature trees were felled to accommodate a rather arbitrary redesign of the parking spaces. Please do not repeat that dreadful mistake.

Carolyn Larkin

## The Old Curmudgeon



"This park is perfect for 'Outward Bound' training"

### Vehicle Strikes Boy On Lakeside Drive

A 12-year-old boy was struck by a vehicle while crossing Lakeside Drive near Westway at about 6:45 p.m. on Tuesday, March 3. Initial examination indicated that he suffered compound fractures of both femurs and fractures of the right shoulder and right arm. The injuries were not believed to be life threatening. The youth was transported to Children's Hospital Center by helicopter after he was taken by the Fire Department to Braden Field. He was admitted for surgery.

The Greenbelt Police Department is still investigating the cause of the accident.

### Crime Prevention Tips

The Police Department is working hard to reduce crime in Greenbelt's neighborhoods but needs the help of residents. To ensure they are not inviting burglary or theft by providing a thief opportunity to commit these crimes, follow these prevention tips:

- always lock doors and windows
- be sure that doors with glass have adequate locks
- keep the exterior of buildings well lit at night
- use timers to turn lights and a radio on and off when away for extended periods of time
- report all crimes, suspicious persons or activities to the police.

## Workshop Saturday On Anacostia Area

The Anacostia Watershed Society in league with the Hyattsville Organization for a Positive Environment (HOPE) and other area civic and environmental organizations is sponsoring a half-day workshop on restoring the Northeast and Northwest Branches, "From Ditch to Habitat: Anacostia Watershed Restoration Workshop."

The workshop will take place on Saturday, March 7 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Bladensburg Town Hall, 4229 Edmonston Road. For information please contact The Anacostia Watershed Society, 301-699-6204; Sam Love, 202-891-1808 or Elizabeth Arnold, 301-779-8587.

The purpose of the workshop is to initiate specific permit requests to the Corps of Engineers for plantings along the Northwest and Northeast Branches of the Anacostia River. In addition, the workshop will focus on how the local community can take advantage of recent developments to influence how the river and the land around it will be utilized in the next millennium.

### Workshop Goals

The "Ditch to Habitat Workshop" has three goals: 1) to inform the public about the history of the area known as the Bladensburg Floodplain (the Northeast Branch below Riverdale Road, the Northwest Branch below 38th Avenue, as well as the Anacostia proper); 2) inform the public about current plans for the area under federal, state and local agencies; and 3) develop specific community-based proposals

about land and river use for consideration by the Corps of Engineers. Indian Creek, on the western edge of Greenbelt, flows into the Northeast Branch.

The past half century has seen the Anacostia and its tributaries used primarily as a ready made storm drain to control flooding. As a consequence the lower reaches are now virtually lifeless. In recent years residents and professional caretakers of the river have become increasingly conscious of the detrimental legacy the sole concern with flood control has had on surrounding communities. Now the Army Corps of

Engineers, the state Department of Natural Resources and the county Department of Environmental Resources are becoming open to actions that might lead to the rebirth of the Anacostia.

According to HOPE Chairperson Sam Love, "Citizens are already seeing the active use of the bike path for cycling and walking. Imagine how much more use the area would get if anglers could actually fish the streams, or the area could become a winter stopover for migratory birds. Restoration will be a major asset to the community and enhance the attractiveness and value of area real estate."

## 2nd Annual SENIOR ICE CREAM SOCIAL

featuring:

**Cantanti,  
Singing Ensemble**

and

**Jim Waas,  
Contra Dance Caller**

**Enjoy music, dancing, and making  
your own Ice Cream Sundae!**

**March 13, 1998 1:00-3:30pm**

**FREE  
Community Center**

## Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

15 Crescent Road, Suite 100, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770-1887  
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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Diane Oberg, president; James Giese, vice president; Virginia Beauchamp, treasurer; Bernina McGee, secretary; and Barbara Likowski.

DEADLINES: Display Ads—10 p.m. Monday; Letters, articles and other ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center 15 Crescent Road during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$32/year.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., 8 - 10 p.m.; Tuesday 8-10 p.m.  
Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.



# Community Events

## Park Walk

Join a park ranger on a two mile walk through Greenbelt Park each Saturday in March at 2 p.m. Meet at the Sweetgum picnic area. For information, call Greenbelt Park at 301-344-3944.

## Photo Club Meets

The Greenbelt Photo Club will meet on Tuesday, March 10, at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center. A working discussion is scheduled, so attendees should bring ideas for spring/summer events, guest speakers and community activities. For more information about the photo club call 301-474-6425.

## Greenbelt Greens Monthly Meeting

The monthly meeting of the Greenbelt Greens will be held on Monday, March 9 at 7:30 p.m. in the police station at Ridge and Crescent Roads. There will be a report on ballot access in Maryland and nationally. Refreshments will be served. For further information call 301-474-1998.

## One Woman Circus Comes to Greenbriar

On Saturday, March 14, 1 p.m., the children of Greenbriar and Glen Oaks will be entertained by Jeannie Wall (a.k.a. Lula). Her show will include juggling, unicycling, ropetricks, and magic. Wall has been performing her show at preschools, schools, festivals, corporate events, family affairs, colleges and in her own backyard for the past 20 years. She leads workshops in mask making, creative movement, theater games and circus skills. Besides the U.S., Lula's one-woman circus has performed in Japan, Canada and the Caribbean. This is a free event for toddlers to age 12, but pre-registration is required. Call Tina at 301-441-1096.

## Golden Age Club

by Dolores Capotosto

Although this reporter did not attend the Golden Age Club meeting on February 25, several people have said that they enjoyed the video on Branson, MO, which was shown. Some who have already been there have remarked that they would like to go again.

For those who are not going to Toby's Dinner Theater on Wednesday, March 11, there will be a speaker at the meeting. Britt Cave will present "Safety Tips for Seniors." Come with questions ready.

The Travel Committee is planning a trip to Richmond, VA on Tuesday, April 14. See a member of this committee for more information and to reserve a spot on the bus.

A reminder that the Golden Age Club's annual luncheon is scheduled for Wednesday, April 29, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at E.J.'s Landing Restaurant in the College Park Best Western. There is a cost for lunch.

Greenbelters are glad to hear that Ima Davis is at home recovering from her recent heart surgery. Also Ray Haber is now at the Greenbelt Nursing Home. Those members who wish to visit should call first. Anyone who becomes aware of members who are ill should inform the Sunshine Chairperson, June Francisco.

See you at the meetings.

## At the Library

Wednesday, March 11, 7 p.m., P.J. Storytime, ages 4 - 6.

Thursday, March 12, 10:15 a.m., Drop-In Storytime, ages 3 - 5. 11:15 a.m. Tickle Toddler Storytime, age 2 and parent or caregiver.

## Beauty Seminar Set For Cancer Patients

"Look Good - Feel Better," a cosmetic and hair care seminar for female patients sponsored by the American Cancer Society in cooperation with the CTFA Foundation and the National Cosmetology Association, will hold a seminar on Thursday, March 12, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Greenbelt Cancer Center in Greenbelt.

Call 301-933-9350 for more information.

## Ice Cream Social

The Greenbelt Senior Center is hosting its second annual ice cream social for senior citizens on Friday, March 13. This free program will begin at 1 p.m. in the gym at the Community Center where the Singing Ensemble, Cantanti, will be performing. Seniors will be able to dance, socialize and listen to a variety of music, then enjoy making their own ice cream sundaes. The ice cream will be available beginning at 1:30 p.m. in the dining room. At 2:30 p.m. Jim Waas, a contra dance caller from Riverdale, will teach a few basic contra dances, including the Virginia Reel. If you enjoy line dancing and/or square dancing, you won't want to miss this opportunity to contra dance. All senior citizens are encouraged to attend.

## Advances in Hearing Aids Topic of Mtg.

The next meeting of the Prince George's County Chapter of Self-Help for the Hard of Hearing People will be held Thursday, March 12, 2 - 4 p.m. at the Community Center.

Hearing aids — digital, programmable, miniaturized, conventional. Confused by these terms? Lynn Perloth of the University of Maryland Speech and Hearing Clinic will discuss technological advances in hearing aids as well as services offered to the public by the clinic. Bring questions and concerns to the meeting. Newcomers are welcome.

For directions or further information call 301-474-0345.

## New Deal Cafe

Open Fri & Sat 7-11 pm Music 8:30 pm No cover

Friday, March 6-Geff's Mini-Mic

Saturday, March 7-Terence Mulligan & Friends (poet, singer, more)

Friday, March 13-Cliff Art (progressive)

Saturday, March 14-Mike Elish (original folk)

Donations for Musicians Encouraged  
Greenbelt Community Center  
(301) 474-5642

## Garden Plots Are Now Available

The Greenbelt Garden Club will hold its annual meeting on Tuesday, March 10 at 7 p.m. in the meeting room in the Greenbelt Police Station. Plots will be assigned and business discussed.

The garden club divides three fields into plots. The fields are located off of Gardenway (near the overpass) and near Hamilton Place (one field is across the street from the GHI offices and the other is near the boat storage yard). There are plowed and unplowed plots. There are no water outlets to connect hoses.

For more information call 301-345-3275. The Greenbelt Garden Club has provided a place for the gardeners of Greenbelt to grow vegetables and flowers for 60 years.

## Gray Panthers Meet

Global warming will be the topic of an open public meeting sponsored by the Gray Panthers on Saturday, March 14 at 1:30 p.m. in the Greenbelt Community Center Senior Classroom. The speaker will be Adam Druun, assistant to Senator Kerry of Massachusetts. He will present a slide show and also answer audience questions.

All persons of all ages are invited. Refreshments will be served. For information or rides call Janet Parker, 301-474-6668 or Esther Webb, 301-474-6890.

## Open House Planned By Nursery School

On Sunday, March 15, from 3 to 5 p.m., Mishkan Torah Nursery School, 10 Ridge Road, will hold an Open House. The curriculum encourages emotional, social, cognitive and physical development, creativity and positive self-esteem.

The program includes art, music, stories, dance, drama, science and nature, food experience and nutritious snacks. Jewish holidays are celebrated with song, food and dance. Children of all backgrounds are welcome and their diversity respected. Lunch is available. Mishkan Torah Nursery School is accredited by the Maryland State Board of Education.

Families are invited to the March 15 open house for fun and refreshments, or parents may call and drop by with their child on a school day. Registration for fall 1998 is now in progress for two, three and four year olds.

For information, contact Bonnie Korr, director, at 301-474-4224 or 301-277-8615.

## OLD GREENBELT THEATRE

WEEK OF MARCH 6  
The Apostle PG 13

Fr.: (4:40, All seats \$3)  
7:15, 9:45

Sat: (4:40 all seats \$3.00)  
7:15, 9:45

Sun: (4:40 all seats \$3.00)  
7:20

Mon: (7:30 all seats \$3.00)  
Tues., Wed., Thurs: 7:30

<http://www.pgtheatres.com/>

## Girl Scout Cookies Sold Outside Stores

Girl Scouts will sell their famous cookies at various locations in Greenbelt beginning this weekend. They include the Giant and the Courtesy Booth at Beltway Plaza Mall; Blockbuster Video at 8904 62 Ave. and Greenbelt Road and the Safeway store at Greenway Shopping Center. Booth

sales will continue until March 31.

Proceeds from the annual cookie sale help support Girl Scouting in the Greenbelt area. Troops receive fifty cents from every box of cookies sold.

For more information, call the Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital at 202-337-4300.



## REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL MUNICIPAL BUILDING COUNCIL ROOM

MARCH 9, 1998 - 8:00 P.M.

### I. ORGANIZATION

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
4. Consent Agenda - Approval of Staff Recommendations

*(The consent agenda consists of those items which have asterisks (\*) placed beside them, subject to such revisions as may be made by the Council prior to approval)*

5. Approval of Agenda and Additions

### II. COMMUNICATIONS

6. Presentations  
- Top Dog for USPCA - Region III Award to PFC Jerry Potts and "Tony"
7. Petitions and Requests

*(Petitions received at the meeting will not be acted upon by the City Council at this meeting unless the standing rules are waived by the Council)*

8. Minutes of Meetings  
- Regular Meeting, February 23, 1998  
- Executive Session, February 23, 1998  
- Legislative Dinner, February 25, 1998  
- Work Session, February 28, 1998

9. Administrative Reports

10. Committee Reports

### III. LEGISLATION

11. An Ordinance to Amend Section 2-113 of the City Code to Require that Members of the Board of Appeals Submit Annual Reports of Financial Interest - 2nd Reading
12. An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 10, "Licenses, Permits and Miscellaneous Business Regulations", of the Greenbelt City Code by Adding a Penalty for Failing to Obtain a City Liquor License - 1st Reading
13. An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 11, "Motor Vehicles and Traffic" of the Greenbelt City Code for the Purpose of Allowing the City to Update and Revise Certain Provisions and Increase Certain Fees - 1st Reading
14. An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 18, "Streets and Sidewalks" of the Greenbelt City Code for the Purpose of Allowing the City to Update and Revise Certain Provisions and Increase Certain Fees. - 1st Reading
15. An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 4, "Buildings and Building Regulations" of the Greenbelt City Code for the Purpose of Allowing the City to Update and Revise Certain Provisions. - 1st Reading

16. Zoning Ordinance

### IV. OTHER BUSINESS

17. FY 1998 Audit Services
18. Professional Services Contract - Roosevelt Center Mall Renovation
19. Approval of Purchase - Natural Gas Cargo Van
20. County & State Legislation
21. Reappointments to City Advisory Groups

### V. MEETINGS

NOTE: This is a preliminary agenda, subject to change. Regular Council meetings are open to the public and all interested citizens are invited to attend. For information, please call 301-474-3870. If special accommodations are required to make this meeting accessible to any disabled person, please call 301-474-8000 or 301-474-2046 (TDD) to request such accommodation before 10:00 am on the day of the meeting. Check out the Greenbelt CityLink website at [www.ci.greenbelt.md.us](http://www.ci.greenbelt.md.us)

David E. Moran, City Clerk

## Keep March 31st Open

That's the night that the Prince George's Peace and Justice Caucus will be presenting a seminar on violence avoidance in the Greenbelt Community Center Multipurpose Room.

Call Bert Donn at  
301-474-1353 for more information.



## OBITUARIES

### Fredda V. Gryska

Fredda V. Gryska, 87, of Green Ridge House, died on Wednesday, February 25. She was one of the original residents when Green Ridge House opened. She was born in Canton, Pa. and lived for many years in Elmira, N.Y. Her husband, John Gryska, died in 1953.

In the 1950s Mrs. Gryska worked for the Sperry Rand Corporation in Elmira, where she participated in the construction of the first Univac computers. She did delicate electronic wiring on circuit boards, the predecessor of the computer chip.

She came to Maryland in 1967 when she became house director at the Alpha Delta Pi Sorority at the University of Maryland in College Park. When she retired in 1980, she moved into Green Ridge House. She was active there on the Green Ridge House Residents Board and served as president for several years.

She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Jack and Martha Houghton of Gaithersburg; her daughter and son-in-law, Judith and Ronald Ott of Greenbelt; grandchildren Lynne Lewis of Silver Spring and Andrew Ott of Overland Park, Mo. and great grandsons Charles and James Cushman.

A memorial service was held at Green Ridge House on Saturday, February 28. Despite being visually impaired, Mrs. Gryska enjoyed reading throughout her life. The family asks that contributions be made in her memory to the Prince George's County Public Library Foundation, Development Office, 6532 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD 20782. Designate Greenbelt Branch, large print collection.

### Self-Help Meeting On Depression

In dealing with adversity, maintaining a positive attitude can make a difference. Dr. James Gormally will illustrate coping techniques that can be used in everyday life on Tuesday, March 10, 7:30 p.m., at Washington Adventist Hospital. For more information call 1-800-542-5096. Pre-registration is required.

### Festival Notes

#### Plans Start Now For Labor Day Fete

The Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Committee will hold its first meeting to prepare for the 1998 Labor Day Festival. The annual meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 12 at the Community Center in the Senior Classroom (first floor). At the meeting the committee will approve a preliminary budget, elect officers, and discuss plans for the year. All committee members, booth representatives, and those who would like to work on the Festival are asked to attend.

Future meetings have already been set: Tuesday, April 14, Thursday, May 14, and Tuesday, June 16. The committee will alternate between meeting dates to allow more people to attend.

Although it's early in the season, Festival President Rick Ransom says it's not too soon to put the team in place to produce the community's annual Festival. It takes the work of hundreds of community volunteers and the support of community businesses and organizations to make the Festival work. New activities and events are planned for this year. Drop by the meeting and see how to be involved. For more information call Rick Ransom at 301-441-1597.



Above, pre-school cherub choir, under the direction of Carolyn Madison of Beltsville, performs for Holy Cross Lutheran Church service.

Back row: Katie Preston, Beltsville; Allison Ridgely, Greenbelt; Max Neugebauer, Bowie; Andrew Baldwin, Cheverly; Stephanie Burt, Columbia; and Ken Ray, College Park.

Front row: Andrew and Kenny Clarkson, Greenbelt; Sarah Ann Fitzenreiter, Beltsville; Anna Marie Ray, College Park; and Tamara Shifflett, Hyattsville.

### Greenbelt CARES

On Thursday, February 19, Wendy Wexler spoke to the psychology classes at Eleanor Roosevelt High School regarding alternative careers in the field.

Tammy Mountcastle and Carolyn Rodner continue to lead decision making groups for fifth graders at Springhill Lake Elementary School.

Judye Hering held a second tutor's workshop at the University of Maryland on Wednesday, February 18. New tutors were able to observe the tutor/student match as well as learn positive strategies for tutoring students. Seven tutors attended the workshop.

### Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed at the Salvation Army in Hyattsville for stocking the food pantry and working in the office. If interested, please call Renee Dawson at 301-277-6104.

### Anxiety Workshop

Are fears and tension interfering with one's life? Is it "normal worries" or is it something worse? Washington Adventist Hospital is offering a free seminar on Wednesday, March 11, at 7:30 p.m., which will help people learn some of the causes and treatments for anxiety. Advance registration is required. Call 1-800-542-5096.

### "Living the Legacy" Airs on Thursdays

In commemoration of Women's History Month, the Prince George's County Cable TV show "Focus on Human Services" looks at the women's movement in America. Where do women find themselves today, 150 years after its beginning in the Seneca Falls convention? That is the subject of a half-hour program, "Living the Legacy," which airs on Thursday night, March 5 at 8:30, and will be repeated each Thursday in March at the same time on the county's cable channel 18.

Hosting the program, in a talk-show format, is Donna Crocker, Director of Family Services for Prince George's County. Her guests are Greenbelt News Review staff member Virginia Beauchamp and County Councilmember Dorothy Bailey. Beauchamp was a founding member of the Women's Studies Department at the University of Maryland and served for two years after her retirement as special assistant to the University president on women's issues. Bailey currently presides as County Council chairman.

### RIVERDALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

6513 Queens Chapel Rd, University Park, MD  
Ph: (301) 927-0477. TTY: (301) 699-2156

Sunday Worship: 11:00 a.m.

Minister: Dr. David R. McNeilly

Organist/Choir Master: Dr. Dale Krider

Interpretation  
for the DEAF



### Setting the Gospel FREE!

Reverend Drew Shofner -- Pastor

Early Morning Worship (Sunday)	8:35 AM
Bible Study for all ages (Sunday)	9:45 AM
Worship Service (Sunday)	11:00 AM
	6:00 PM
Prayer Service (Wednesday)	7:00 PM

For transportation or more information call 301-474-4212  
Located at the corner of Crescent and Greenhill Roads

### Greenbelt Baptist Church

### Berwyn Presbyterian Church

6301 Greenbelt Road

Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Worship Service	11:00 a.m.

All are Welcome

Interim Pastor

Rev. Jack Wineman

301-474-7573



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Friendly people worshipping God and serving their community

SUNDAY MARCH 8

8:30 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE
9:45 A.M. FELLOWSHIP HALL
REENACTMENT - HUSTLE & BUSTLE OF JERUSALEM MARKET PLACE
10:00 A.M. CONNEXIONS STUDY WITH KEITH THOMAS
10:00 A.M. STUDY CLASSES



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Fax 301-220-0694

E-mail HCROSSLCMS@AOL.COM

http://member.aol.com/hcrosslcms/hclchome.htm  
Rev. Stephen H. Mentz, Pastor (301) 345-5111

### Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road,  
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Welcomes you to our open,  
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March 8, 1998  
9:30 & 11:15 a.m. services

"Opening Our Wings"  
Rev. Rod Thompson



Religious Education Classes

### UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt  
301-474-9410



Physically impaired accessible

SUNDAY

Bible Study	9:30 am
Sunday School	10:00 am
Worship Service	11:00 am

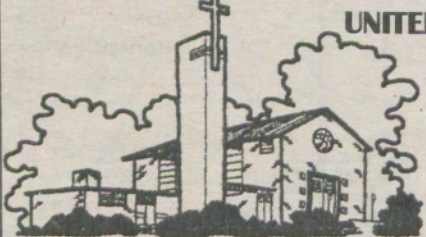
Rev. Guillermo Chavez, Pastor

Where there is welcome for the stranger  
and community with others who seek love and justice.

### Greenbelt Community Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Hillside & Crescent Roads  
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings



SUNDAY WORSHIP  
10:15 a.m.

Daniel Hamlin, Pastor

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http://members.aol.com/stgeogd/

The Rev. Michael Hopkins, Vicar



### Sunday Services

9 am Folk Service

10 am Education for all ages

11 am Sung Service (Sign interpreted, 3rd/4th Suns)

### Wednesdays

6:30 pm Quiet

Communion Service

### Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS

Municipal Building Sundays  
10 A.M.

### Baha'i Faith

"Purify thou, first, thy soul with the  
waters of renunciation, and adorn thine  
head with the crown of the fear of God,  
and thy temple with the ornament of  
reliance upon Him."

-Baha'i Sacred Writings

Greenbelt Baha'i Community  
P.O. Box 245  
Greenbelt, MD 20770  
301-345-2918 301-220-3160

Tune in Baha'i Radio every Saturday at  
12 noon on WUST 1120 on the AM dial  
Information about the Baha'i Faith is on the  
World Wide Web at: <http://www.bahai.org/>



## Grass Roots Effort

Continued from page 1

Berwyn Heights school reopen for less, thus saving money for state and county governments?

After its closure in 1981, the vacant Berwyn Heights school was officially conveyed to Prince Georges County, later passed to the State of Maryland, and in 1987 became the administrative headquarters for the University of Maryland's Fire and Rescue Institute (MFRI). The idea of relocating the MFRI seemed unattainable to many, but Davidson was undaunted. She found that because of expansion at the MFRI in the previous four years, its needs could perhaps be better met at another facility. The property had been maintained well by the MFRI, so retooling and updating it to current elementary school standards would cost just under \$5 million. Relocating the MFRI would cost approximately \$3 million. These costs together totalled significantly less than the cost of building a new elementary school. Davidson set to work igniting the town to back the idea.

Davidson needed proof of what she and others had instinctively felt: the population of Berwyn Heights could support and would thrive on a community school. She organized a census of Berwyn Heights' children, school-aged and younger. The census showed a profile of a fixed point in time, December 1996. It was designed, conducted, and analyzed by citizen volunteers from the town.

### Census Information

Census information on every household in the town was obtained.

The census showed that only one of four households had children living in them, and since most of Berwyn Heights homes typically served in the past as "starter homes," the census group concluded that prospective home buyers with children may have been avoiding Berwyn Heights because of the lack of a neighborhood school. Proximity to home proved to be a major factor in school choice for those families

with children in Berwyn Heights. By a considerable margin, the largest numbers of elementary-aged children attended the two closest elementary schools: Springhill Lake Elementary and the private Catholic school at Holy Redeemer. Children not attending the two schools were widely dispersed, attending over 60 other schools.

Armed with a thorough census, Davidson and her supporters contacted county school board members, worked with officers of the MFRI, enlisted the help of state legislators, and finally won the support of the governor. "Enormous progress has been made," said Davidson. "We have potential success with something previously unthinkable."

Berwyn Heights Elementary is not open yet, however its future is linked to developments on numerous political fronts, and a coordinated effort is still needed to keep the proposal alive. Davidson is continuing the fight at the grass-roots level, along with the numerous Berwyn Heights citizens who have learned what activism can achieve.

### Free Throw Winners Go to Championships

Rachel Aloupis, 13; Amber Kelso, 12; Stephen Kimble, 11; Mike Carey, 10; and Amanda Winfrey, 10 were all winners in the free throw competition held at St. Hugh's on January 24. They competed in the Knights of Columbus District Free Throw Championship Sunday, February 8 at 2 p.m. at St. Mary's of Landover Hills gym.

Other competitors at St. Hugh's included Greg Bistany, Mike Bistany, Billy Villiard, Harrison Hilliard in the ten and under competition for the boys, and Katherine Kimble, Stephanie Carey and Kelsey Shaffer for the girls.

On the eight-foot basket, Daniel Dorsey scored the most, followed by Nicholas Viktor. Cassandra Winfrey and Stephanie Carey tied for the girls lead.

## National Wildlife Refuge Celebration

Join the Party! The Patuxent Research Refuge will be celebrating the 95th birthday of the National Wildlife Refuge System, on March 14 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the National Wildlife Visitor Center. Step back in time with exciting activities highlighting important milestones in the history of the National Wildlife Refuge System. Activities will include guided naturalist hikes, electric tram tours, children's activities and crafts, puppet shows, wildlife displays, and birthday cake for all who attend. In addition, the refuge birthday celebration marks the beginning of the National Wildlife Center tram tour season. The first tram tour of 1998 will commence March 14 at 10:30 a.m. and run every 45 minutes, with the last tour starting at 3:30 p.m. Guided tours will take people across parts of the refuge that are less visited by people, but heavily used by wildlife. There is a fee.

Activities will be rain or shine. All activities are free (except a small fee for the tram tours). The National Wildlife Visitor Center is located off of Powder Mill Road, between the Baltimore/Washington Parkway and Route 197, south of Laurel. Call 301-497-5760 for more information, or visit the web site at <http://www.prr.r5.fws.gov>.

### Parenting Class

Learn systematic training for effective parenting by attending a four-hour workshop on parenting young children. The seminar will be held on Saturday, March 14 at 8 a.m. at Washington Adventist Hospital. For more information call 1-800-542-5096. Pre-registration is required.

## Our Neighbors

Condolences to Judy and Ron Ott on the death of Judy's mother Fredda Gryska.

Congratulations to Kelly and Edward Stratchko of Bowie on the birth of their daughter Britney Nicole on Feb. 23. She tipped the scales at 11 lbs. 8 oz. The happy grandparents are Julia and Eugene Stratchko of Greenhill Road and Sandra and Vincent Keyser of Port Republic, MD.

Congratulations to Emily Ann Carmona, 2 year old daughter of Cindy Lou and Frank Carmona of Laurel Hill Road. Emily participated in the Emerald USA Sweetheart Pageant held in Baltimore on Feb. 8. She raised the most for this charity event of all the girls participating and also



Emily Ann Carmona

won a number of awards in the Tiny Tot Division. Emily and Cindy Lou also won the parent/child award.

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE GROUP FOR WOMEN

\* CONFIDENTIAL \*

Topics will include:

- marital / couples conflict
- domestic issues
- legal referrals
- self esteem
- safety planning and survival skills
- communication skills
- relationship building in the home

### ORIENTATION SESSION:

**WHERE:** Multi-Purpose Room  
Greenbelt Police Dept.  
550 Crescent Road  
Greenbelt, Md 20770

**WHEN:** Tuesday, March 10th

**TIME:** 5:15 - 6:45 p.m.

\* Initial session is free of charge, additional sessions are based on a sliding scale fee \*

sponsored by The Family Crisis Center and Greenbelt CARES  
for more information contact Dana Rabois at 301-441-3770



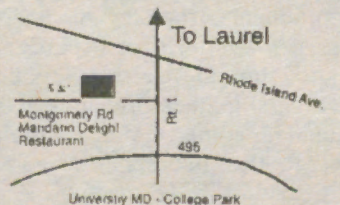
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## Marriage & Family

### Seminar

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Vice-President of

## Emergent Ministries

**March 13 & 14 1998**

### Seminar Topics

**Healthy Habits For The Biblically Effective Family Life**  
Part 1 Establishing Family Cohesion  
Part 2 Sustaining Family Cohesion  
**Understanding and Managing Difficult Behavior In Children**  
**Managing Marital Conflict**  
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## GHI Board Discusses Satellite Dish Problems, Fees and Voting

by Hopi Auerbach

Just after the agenda for the regular Greenbelt Homes, Inc. Board meeting of February 26 was approved, GHI President Keith Jahoda allocated numbers of minutes, ranging from five to 30, to be spent on each agenda item. Primestar satellite dishes, the location of voting for future annual meetings, just who GHI really is, and the effect of rehab loan re-payment on GHI monthly fees were discussed. Later, the meeting did indeed adjourn early, at 9:45 p.m.!

Will GHI fees decrease when the HUD Loan is re-paid? GHI member Louise Wilding told the Board she had understood that, in the near future, when GHI's rehab loans are paid off, member's monthly fees will decrease by the same amount that is now charged to service the debt. But recently, Wilding reported, she had heard that member's monthly fees will stay the same, and that amount, (in her case, about \$100 per month) will be re-allocated for other uses.

Jahoda and Directors Bill Phelan and Chuck Hess admitted that at least some portion of that dollar amount, which is currently being collected to re-pay the loan, will probably still be collected after the loan is paid off, because of the need to provide for GHI's Replacement Reserve Fund (RRF). Jahoda explained that GHI's expenses are certain to increase faster than money for the RRF is currently being collected. Directors assured Wilding that they are aware of several other issues she raised, relating to payment of the loan, and encouraged her to participate in the decision-making by attending future meetings where the GHI budget will be discussed.

### Special Meeting

On February 24, the GHI membership met and voted to expel a member whose household includes someone who has repeatedly been a problem for neighbors. At the regular GHI Board meeting of February 26, several Directors reported hearing compliments from the members on how smoothly President Jahoda conducted the Special Membership meeting, and also extended compliments of their own to the members for good participation in the meeting.

Director Betty Deitch had learned that several GHI members did not take voting cards because they felt the expulsion issue "should be settled between GHI and that member." Deitch was able to persuade some of them that they, in fact, are GHI. Deitch said this underscores the need to "make further efforts to ensure members realize GHI isn't some 'Big Brother' up here."

### Primestar Satellite Dish

GHI member Ken Ebisawa finds himself in a "Catch-22." He cannot both comply with Prince George's County and City of Greenbelt permit requirements, and have a Primestar satellite dish installed in his yard. According to Jahoda, Ebisawa "is being a model GHI member." Having read the Handbook, he detected a problem, and asked for an exception.

GHI has generally approved the dish, (measuring less than one meter in diameter, to be installed near the house, close to

the ground, in the service side yard)...provided...all necessary County and City regulations are obeyed. County regulations require that a Master Electrician obtain a permit for the installation. For the most part, electricians will not draw permits for projects unless they are doing the actual work themselves. Primestar sells the dish in a package, including installation, to be done in part by a Primestar electrician. Primestar will not draw the County and City permits, citing the U.S. Congress's Telecommunications Act of 1996 and Federal Communications Commission regulations which, according to Primestar and many other's interpretations, preclude any County or City governments from charging fees or requiring permits for satellite dishes less than one meter in diameter. Jahoda characterizes this federal prohibition on local regulation of satellite dishes as the "Big-Bucks Act" of 1996.

Director Dorothy Lauber said the City of Greenbelt does not necessarily agree with that interpretation of FCC regulations, and Jay Freedman reported that Prince George's County is also standing by its right to regulate dishes, and is determined to enforce its requirements.

Ironically, it seems that other Primestar customers in Prince George's County have simply refused to comply with County and City regulations, and hired Primestar to install dishes without obtaining permits. Apparently, this disregard of regulations on the part of private home owners has gone unnoticed by code enforcement authorities. In contrast, it is felt by most of the GHI Board and staff that if a large property owner, such as GHI, were to allow neglect of local regulations, the non-compliance would be noticed.

The GHI board passed a motion to table discussion of the issue, so it is neither prohibiting Primestar satellite dishes in GHI, nor condoning their installation in violation of County and City permit requirements. Only Director Steve Harper voted against the motion, and advocated that GHI should challenge the validity of County and City satellite regulations.

### Voting Location

Since there is no room large enough at the GHI offices on Hamilton Place, the GHI Annual Meeting itself will be held on May 16 at the Greenbelt Community Center. Pros and cons of using GHI offices or the Greenbelt Community Center for all-day voting on May 17, after the Annual Meeting, were discussed.

## Goddard and ERHS In Robot Competition

The race is on for thousands of high school students throughout the Mid-Atlantic region as they fire up their brains for the 1998 Johnson & Johnson/FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Mid-Atlantic Regional Robotics Competition. The students and their partners, engineers from businesses and universities, have only six weeks to design and build radio-controlled robots for a no-holds-barred tournament March 19 - 21 at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ. Nearly 50 student-engineer teams from New Jersey, New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia are set to compete this year, up from 35 teams last year.

NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center and Eleanor Roosevelt High School will jointly enter a team in the competition.

Team leaders from all the regional FIRST competitions, Mid-Atlantic, Midwest, New England, Great Lakes and Southwest, met January 10 for an engineering workshop/competition kick-off at FIRST headquarters in Manchester, NH. Each team will receive competition rules and a parts kit containing a control system, electrical components, motors, batteries and hardware to build their team's robot.

"The teams have to transform game-winning strategies into working machines using some very robust technologies. Students will realize the importance of what they've been learning in the classroom," said Andrew Allen, FIRST Foundation president and former NASA shuttle astronaut.

The FIRST Mid-Atlantic Competition is sponsored by Johnson & Johnson, hosted by Rutgers University with the participation of businesses, universities and high schools, and promoted by a growing alliance of organizations concerned with the preparedness of the region's workforce for the 21st century.

Staff pointed out that there is a fee for use of the Community Center and none for use of GHI offices, the walk from the parking lot is longer at the Community Center and there are no steps or ramp at GHI offices. All Directors except Bill Phelan and Hess voted to hold voting on May 17 at the Greenbelt Community Center because members are accustomed to that location and so that the meeting and subsequent voting will all be in the same place.

## COUNCIL MEETING

(Continued from page 1)

already in use and the latter will be soon acquired.)

The Recreation Department has only a very small network, McLaughlin said.

Of more concern, he suggested, are facilities like elevators and telephone systems. (Any system containing a timed computer chip which has only two digits representing the last two years of an assumed 20th century, will automatically read 00 as 1900 after midnight 1999 and is expected to shut down that system, as well as those to which it is connected.)

A second issue is to bring the city into compliance with a new law in the Internal Revenue Code requiring that all assets and income of a deferred compensation plan for employees "be held in trust for the exclusive benefit of the participants and their beneficiaries." Existing plans must comply by December 31, 1998. According to a memo by City Treasurer Jeffrey Williams, before this change "claims against the city could have been satisfied by taking employees' retirement savings."

The third issue involves new guidelines from the Auditing Standard Board of the American Institute of CPA's that requires greater responsibility on the part of auditing firms to detect and investigate possible material fraud. Although not a change in the firm's mandate, these

guidelines might generate more lengthy questioning of city staff.

The two recommendations from the auditing firm involve (1) delegating to each city department an annual responsibility to inventory those permanent assets, such as buildings and equipment, that fall under their jurisdiction and (2) budgeting capital projects for the life of the project rather than annually, as had been previously done.

### New Ordinance

Council accepted for first reading a new ordinance amending the city code to require members of the Board of Appeals to submit annual reports of financial interest. Such reports are currently required of members of the Advisory Planning Board. When the city took over jurisdiction from the county for real estate code violations, a special board for citizen appeals was set up. Members of this board would now be subject to the terms of this new ordinance.

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Leave name, address and phone  
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### PRELIMINARY AGENDA

GHI Board of Directors  
Thursday, March 12, 1998  
7:30 P.M.  
GHI Board Room

### Key Agenda Items:

#### GHI

- ◆ Membership Criteria
- ◆ Shed Regulations
- ◆ Heating Options Consultant Bids
- ◆ Air-conditioning Regulations

Board meetings are open to members.

## AUCTION SUN. MAR. 8 3:15 P.M.



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1997 PRINCE GEORGE'S BOARD OF TRADE SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR



## Library Gallery Shows Holzer's Art



Katherine Holzer at work in her studio.

The Gallery at the Greenbelt Library will exhibit works by Laurel artist Katherine Holzer beginning with a reception for the artist from 3 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 7.

The exhibit will feature 26

works of varying sizes and styles in a number of media including watercolor, pastel, and especially mixed media.

"... Using collage and mixed media has made my work more compelling and in some ways more visually truthful than my more traditionally created works ... (it) encourages ... creativity and playfulness ..." says Holzer.

Holzer was one of a number of artists to be honored as an outstanding Maryland artist. One of her works, with the others, was part of three exhibits, each shown in Governor's House in Annapolis for a month. The artists were also honored with a dinner with Governor Glendening.

Holzer also won first prize and an award of \$250 for a three dimensional pastel at the Fairfax Arts Council Open Exhibition in September 1997.

The exhibit will run through the end of March.

The Gallery is open Monday through Saturday from 2 - 5 p.m., and Monday through Wednesday from 6:30 - 9 p.m.

## Play Features Councilmembers

Mayor J Davis of Greenbelt and councilmembers Thomas X. White and Rodney Roberts will appear as jury members in the play "Inherit the Wind," to be presented at the Prince George's Publick Playhouse, on March 13. They will appear as "cameo" roles in the drama that premieres on March 6.

Inherit the Wind centers on

the "Scopes Monkey Trial" which took place in Tennessee in 1925. The play is presented by the Prince George's Little Theater, Inc., directed by Stefanie Boss, and produced by Roney Shawe.

The Publick Playhouse is located on Landover Road in Cheverly. For information call 301-277-1710.

## Programs Feature Poet and Attorney

Two programs next week, to be presented by the College Park Branch of the American Association of University Women, may be of special interest to the general public. The first, to be held Monday, March 9 at 7:30 p.m. will feature attorney Laura Keohane, who is campus compliance officer for the University of Maryland. She will discuss her experience with the legal issues of most concern to faculty and students during her tenure in this position.

The program will take place in the upstairs council chamber of the College Park Municipal Center, 4500 Knox Rd. The building is half a block east of U.S.1. Refreshments will be served.

On Friday, March 13, Profes-

sor Martha Nell Smith will be the speaker at a noon luncheon program at the Rossborough Inn on the University campus. The program is one of a series designed to highlight the achievements and research of women faculty.

Dr. Smith is known nationwide for her editing and research on the poetry of Emily Dickinson; but in this talk she will share her recent discoveries about the poet's sister-in-law Susan Dickinson and the latter's own publications, which Smith has been editing for an electronic archive.

For information about reservations and possible transportation to the luncheon call program coordinator Virginia Beauchamp at 301-474-7183.



Music Producers Rose Alvarez (Sharon Gavin) and Albert Peterson (Richard Dahl) respond to inquiries about Conrad Birdie's "sordid" past. Reporters, (l-r) are played by Beryl Feldman, Phil Brandis, Trix Whitehall and Eliot Malumuth.

\*\*\*\*\*  
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**1A Research - \$53,900**  
 3 Bd End - walk to school. Built in  
 washer/dryer 2 ACs Deck - shed -  
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**7J Southway - \$48,000**  
 2 bd, upgraded kitchen & bath, new  
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**3 Bd End Brick**  
 6 R Ridge Road  
 Great shape - fantastic yard  
 Principals only

**10C Southway - \$49,900**  
 Bath and 1/2,  
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## MARIA'S BEAUTY SHOP

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by Michael Stewart

Music by Charles Strouse and Lyrics by Lee Adams

Elvis lives on in Conrad Birdie! Come see Birdie, His Manager, Albert, and Al's Secretary, Rosie arrange for Birdie's farewell concert in a small Ohio town.

Join kids, teenagers & bewildered parents as Conrad & his entourage descend on the unsuspecting town of Sweet Apple, OH  
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Fridays and Saturdays February 27th - March 14th at 8:00 pm.

Sunday March 8th at 2:00 pm

Tickets are \$10/\$8 Senior Citizens and Students

Celtic Weekend - Friday and Saturday - March 20-21 at 3 pm  
 Skye Gathering & Home Spun Ceilidh Band and Mac-talla perform on both evenings

Friday also features Francine Krasowska

Saturday also features Storyteller Jan Brenner

Tickets - \$8/\$6 Senior Citizens and Students

The Greenbelt Arts Center

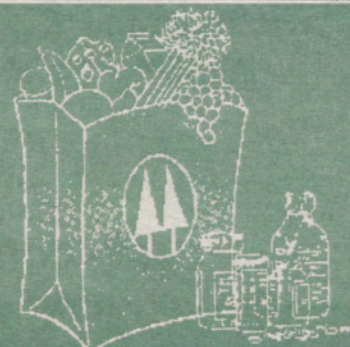
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Beef Rib Eye (Delmonico) Steak lb.	<b>\$4.89</b>	Boneless Stuffed Pork Chops lb.
Grade "A" Chicken Split Breasts lb.	<b>\$1.59</b>	Fresh Logan Sausage All Varieties lb.
Hahn's Bacon "No Water Added" 16 oz. pkg.	<b>\$2.79</b>	Carson's Dried Chipped Beef 4 oz. pkg.
Chung's Egg Rolls All Varieties 12 oz. pkg.	<b>\$2.79</b>	Ball Park Meat Franks 1 lb. pkg.

### DAIRY

New! Sunkist Premium Orange Juice 1/2 Gal.	<b>\$1.69</b>	Saval Deli Corned Beef lb.
Parkay Tub Soft Vegetable Spread 3 lb. Bowl	<b>\$1.59</b>	Smithfield Honey Ham lb.
Hel-v-GD French Onion Dip 8 oz.	<b>59¢</b>	Armour Cooked Salami lb.
Kraft Velveeta Singles Thick-Regular 12 oz.	<b>\$1.79</b>	Domestic Swiss Cheese lb.
New! Sunkist Red Grapefruit Juice 1/2 Gal.	<b>\$1.79</b>	Creamy Cole Slaw lb.

### HOT FOODS DELI

Pork Bar-B-Que Sandwich Each	<b>\$1.49</b>	Fresh Catfish Fillets lb.
<b>BAKERY</b>		Gulf Shrimp 26-30 Count lb.
Rye or Pumpernickel Bread 16 oz. Loaf	<b>\$1.09</b>	Viking Breaded Flounder 16 oz. pkg.

### GROCERY BARGAINS

Ken's Steak House Salad Dressings Asst. Varieties 8 oz.	<b>89¢</b>		General Mills Flour All Purpose- Unbleached 5 lb.	<b>89¢</b>
Kellogg's Original Corn Flakes 18 oz.	<b>\$1.99</b>	Chicken-of-the-Sea Chunk Light Tuna 6 oz.	Best Yet Yellow Corn- Sweet Peas Regular-No Salt 15 oz.	<b>3/\$1.00</b>
Angel Soft Bathroom Tissue 4 Roll Pk.	<b>89¢</b>	New! Beech Nut Ground Coffee 10 1/2 oz.	Musselman's Apple Sauce Asst. Varieties 46 oz. min.	<b>\$1.39</b>
Campbell's Ramen Noodle Soups Asst. Varieties 3 oz.	<b>8/99¢</b>	Cheer Ultra Value Size Liq. Laundry Detergent 100 oz. 32 Load Size	Mardi Gras Giant Roll Paper Towels 2 Ply 84 Sheets	<b>89¢</b>
Best Yet Apple Juice 1/2 Gal.	<b>\$1.19</b>	Kellogg's Special K Cereal 18 oz.	Gerber Baby Graduate Main Meals Asst. Varieties 6 oz.	<b>69¢</b>
Soft & Gentle Facial Tissues 175 pk.	<b>69¢</b>	Best Yet Cut-or-French Green Beans 15 oz.	Hanover Family Size Pork 'N' Beans- Kidney Beans 40 oz. min.	<b>89¢</b>
Dow Trigger Spray Bathroom Cleaner 17 oz.	<b>\$1.29</b>	Smucker's Grape Jelly 32 oz.	Glad 30 Gallon Large Trash Bags 20 Pk.	<b>\$2.49</b>
Best Yet Peanut Butter 18 oz.	<b>\$1.39</b>	No Yolks Noodles Asst. Varieties 12 oz.	Bumble Bee Pink Salmon 14 3/4 oz.	<b>\$1.69</b>
		Washington Corn Muffin Mix 8 oz.		
Poland Springs Sparkling Waters 1 Liter	<b>2/99¢</b>	Best Yet Powdered Laundry Detergent 39 oz.	Mardi Gras Family Pack Napkins 250 pk.	<b>\$1.39</b>
New! Taco Bell Taco Shells 12 pk.	<b>79¢</b>	New! Taco Bell Taco Sauce Mild-Medium 8 oz.	New! Taco Bell Refried Beans 16 oz.	<b>39¢</b>
Best Yet Sliced Carrots- Mixed Vegetables 15 oz.	<b>3/\$1.00</b>	Spray 'N' Wash Laundry Stain Remover 22 oz.	New! Bumpies Diapers Med-Large-Extra Large 36 pk. min.	<b>69¢</b>
Dinty Moore Beef Stew 24 oz.	<b>\$1.79</b>	<b>BONUS COUPONS</b>	Best Yet Plastic Food Wrap 100 ft.	<b>69¢</b>
Glad Lock Storage-or- Freezer Bags Quart-Gallon Sizes 20 pk.-25 pk.	<b>\$1.29</b>	<b>FANTASTIC ALL PURPOSE SPRAY CLEANER</b> 22 oz. With This Coupon & \$7.50 Min. Purchase. Excluding Coupon Items. Limit 1 Per Cust. Valid 3/9-3/15	Kibbles 'N' Bits Dog Food Asst. Flavors 20 lb.	<b>\$8.49</b>
Best Yet Vegetable Oil 48 oz.	<b>\$1.89</b>	<b>BREYER'S ICE CREAM</b> ANY FLAVOR 1/2 Gal. With This Coupon & \$7.50 Min. Purchase. Excluding Coupon Items. Limit 1 Per Cust. Valid 3/9-3/15	Lander's Skin Lotions Asst. Varieties 20 oz.	<b>79¢</b>
Hormel Chili With Beans Asst. Varieties 15 oz.	<b>\$1.09</b>		Herr's Potato Chips Asst. Varieties 6 oz.	<b>99¢</b>
Electrasol Auto Dish Detergent Asst. Varieties 65 oz.	<b>\$1.89</b>		Clean & Smooth Liq. Hand Soap Original-Antibacterial 24 oz.	<b>\$1.69</b>

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Idaho Potatoes 10 Lb. Bag	California 88 Size Navel Oranges 69¢	<b>\$1.89</b>
Baby Peeled Carrots 2 Lb.	Granny Smith Apples Lb.	<b>\$1.99</b>
Green Cabbage Lb.	Minneola Tangeloes 49¢	<b>29¢</b>
Delicious Cluster Tomatoes Lb.	Bartlett Pears Lb.	<b>\$1.89</b>
Verdelli Spinach 10 oz.	California Lemons 69¢	<b>\$1.19</b>
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Banquet Original Meat Pies Beef-Chic-Turkey-Macaroni 6 1/2 oz. min.	<b>49¢</b>	Harp Irish Beer 6 pk. 12 oz. NR's	<b>\$5.99</b>
Ore Ida Potato Crispers- Tater Tots- Wedges 20 oz.-32 oz.	<b>\$1.49</b>	Foster's Beer 12 pk.-12 oz. NR's	<b>\$9.99</b>
Super Pretzel Soft Pretzels Original-Bites-Mini's 12 oz. min.	<b>\$1.19</b>	Sutter Home White Zinfandel Wine 750 ml.	<b>\$4.99</b>
Van De Kamp Value Pack Fish Portions- or-Sticks 25 oz.-26 oz.	<b>\$2.99</b>	Straccali Chianti 750 ml.	<b>\$4.99</b>

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POTATO  
SIDE DISHES** 69¢

AU GRATIN-SCALLOP-  
HASH BROWN-JULIENNE-  
CHEESE-SOUR CREAM  
4 3/4 oz.-6 oz.

With This Coupon & \$7.50 Min. Purchase. Excluding Coupon Items.  
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READY TO SPREAD  
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ASSORTED VARIETIES 12 oz.-16 oz.

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# POLICE BLOTTER

Based on Information Released by the Greenbelt Police Department

## Armed Robbery

Greenway Center, Feb. 25, as a woman reached her vehicle, a man pulled into the space next to her, so close that she had to back up against her vehicle. His passenger window was down and he asked the victim if she knew where Landover Mall was. As she started to reply, the man reached through the open window and grabbed the victim's purse. When she resisted by pulling back on her purse, the man grabbed her coat and pulled her toward the open window. She pulled away, ripping her coat. He then drove out of the parking lot onto westbound Greenbelt Road. The suspect is described as a black male in his 30s of medium weight with brown hair and brown eyes and wearing a zipped-up dark jacket. The vehicle is described as a 4-door gray vehicle with a dent in the right front fender; it had Maryland tags, the last three numbers being 338.

5800 block of Cherrywood Terrace, Feb. 20, a delivery driver was walking back to his car from a delivery when a man approached him, pushed a handgun into his left side and demanded money. The victim handed the robber a \$20 bill, at which time the robber told the victim to remove his shoes. He refused, and the robber told him to get into his vehicle and back it up quickly or he would shoot him. The victim did as he was directed and immediately fled. The victim found a police officer and reported the incident. A check of the area to locate the robber was unsuccessful. He is described as a black male, 18 years of age, 5' 6", 120 pounds, wearing a black ski cap, a black hooded jacket, black pants and a backpack.

Gold Plaza Jewelers, Beltway Plaza Mall, Feb. 22, an armed robbery. The victim, a sales representative, told officers that two men had been in the store on Friday and Saturday looking at various items. On Sunday they returned and one was looking at two diamond rings. The second man joined the victim and the first man at the counter and sprayed the victim in the face with what was described as mace. The first man then punched the victim in the face. Both robbers fled with the rings. Checks of the area for the men were negative. The victim was not seriously injured in the incident.

## Burglary

9200 block of Edmonston Road, Feb. 24, 4:27 p.m. a woman reported a burglary in her apartment following the theft of her purse. She had accepted a ride in the

morning with a man whom she knows only by first name. They went to a fast-food restaurant and ordered food at the drive-through. The victim's order was incorrect, so she went into the restaurant to have it corrected. She left her purse, which contained her apartment keys, in the man's vehicle. When she exited the restaurant, he was gone. Later, the victim received a phone call advising that her purse had been recovered in a dumpster at a Forestville service station. She retrieved it and discovered that her keys and ATM card were missing. She also discovered two items from her residence inside the purse that had been in the residence when she left that morning. Apparently the man had already been to her residence and removed the items. The victim contacted her bank to cancel her ATM card but discovered that it had already been used. The suspect, who she knows as "Kevin," is described as a black male, approximately 27 years of age, 5' 10", with a short bush haircut and a beard. His vehicle is described as a silver Saturn 4-door with possible Maryland tags TVC-131. The driver's door mirror is being held on with gray tape.

6100 block of Breezewood Terrace, Feb. 22, a residential burglary was reported. Entry was forced through the kitchen window. A portable stereo with CD, am/fm and cassette was taken.

## Weapons and Drugs

Buddy Attick Park, Feb. 22, a man was arrested after a citizen reported having seen him expose himself while standing just inside the wood line. Allegedly, the man had been relieving himself. The location where the man was seen is approximately 50 yards from a clearly visible restroom. In the area at the time of the offense there were approximately 20 children in plain view on the playground. After his arrest the man's vehicle was searched, and a loaded .38 caliber revolver was found under the front seat and within the driver's reach. The man, a 59-year-old nonresident, was charged with transporting a handgun and indecent exposure. He was released to the Department of corrections pending a hearing.

6200 block of Springhill Drive, Feb. 24, officers responded to a residence for a complaint of a loud party. Upon their arrival, they detected a strong odor of marijuana coming from behind the door of an apartment. When the door was opened, they observed paraphernalia commonly used for

smoking marijuana in plain view on a table. A 19-year-old male resident was arrested and charged with possession of paraphernalia for controlled and dangerous substances. He was released on citation pending trial.

Eleanor Roosevelt High School, Feb. 26, the School Resource Officer arrested two nonresident youths, ages 16 and 17, after they were found to possess marijuana residue and paraphernalia used to smoke it. They were charged with possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of a pager on school property. Both were released to family members pending action by the Juvenile Justice System.

Beltway Plaza, Feb. 21, a security officer observed an adult purchase an alcoholic beverage for two youths. The security guard observed the youths, nonresidents, 15 and 16 years old, standing outside of the liquor store and watched them take a bottle from an unknown individual who had purchased it. Investigation revealed that the bottle contained brandy. One of the youths was charged with possession of an alcoholic beverage by a person under 21. The second youth was charged with trespassing after it was learned he had been banned from the property a year earlier. Both were released to family members pending action by the Juvenile Justice System.

## Vehicle Thefts

Feb. 26, a green 1985 BMW 635CSI with Maryland tags 089 AYX was reported stolen from the 7200 block of Hanover Drive.

Vandalisms to, thefts from, and attempted thefts from vehicles were reported in the following areas: 6000 block of Springhill Drive, 8 court of Research Road, 6100 block of Breezewood Drive, 6000 block of Greenbelt Road, 7600 and 7700 blocks of Hanover Parkway, 9000 block of Breezewood Terrace, 100 block of Westway Road, 8300 block of Canning Terrace, 9100 block of Springhill Lane and 7900 block of Mandan Road.



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3 bedrooms 1 bath Rambler  
6000 Seabrook Road



## For Sale

Boxwood Village  
Split Foyer, 4 bedrooms 3 baths

## Job Fair for Teenagers

The Greenbelt Recreation Department is sponsoring a Teen Fair to be held at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center on Saturday, March 14, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Representatives from government and private businesses will be present to offer community service and summer and weekend jobs. Light refreshments, including pizza, will be served to those who attend.

It has been reported that Prince George's and Montgomery County students have had difficulty fulfilling their community service obligations. The Greenbelt Teen Fair will provide students with opportunities to meet representatives of organizations which have community service openings. Students are encouraged to attend the fair and make arrangements to fulfill their graduation community service requirements.

In addition to community service jobs, private business representatives will be considering the hiring of qualified students for summer and weekend employment.

A third component of the fair is to provide registration for the Greenbelt Moving Ahead Program (GMA), which will be held at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center on Saturday mornings during the school year. The program will provide tutoring, guidance in filling out jobs and college applications, information on available financial aid, and assistance in preparing for SAT

exams. Note that a GMA program from last year's fair is currently operating and interested students may now attend.

Teenagers will be receiving information about the fair from their schools, churches, advertisements in News Review and posters placed at many locations around Greenbelt.

To date, the following government and private business organizations have made commitments to attend the Fair: Einstein Bagels, CO-OP, 7-Eleven, CVS Pharmacy, AMC Theaters, 3 Brothers Pizza, Hollywood Video, City of Greenbelt, Maryland National Capital Park & Planning Commission, Blockbuster Video, Prince George's County American Red Cross, Greenbelt Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, Greenbelt Adult Care Center, Goddard Space Flight Center (NASA), Greenbelt National Park, Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department, and Popeye's.

Teens are encouraged to bring their parents or other adult relatives so that they may get a better understanding about the benefits and responsibilities associated with community service.

## Trades Persons Needed

Christmas in April needs all types of skilled trades persons for the April 25 Christmas in April Day. Contact Mary at 301-868-0937.

## Attention Consignment Shoppers

Upscale Fashion Resale for Women, Men, Kids  
Designer and Top Department Store labels  
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**The Better Way Boutique, 7319-B Baltimore Ave.**

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Select tables.

• **\$4<sup>99</sup>** and up: on wallpaper  
a single roll  
Over 100 to choose from.

• **Bundle Sale** on Wallpaper up to 8SR, now  
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• **Benjamin MOORE PAINT**  
Discontinued colors & mismixed paints  
Only \$8<sup>00</sup> gallon, \$4<sup>00</sup> Qt.

• **FABRIC SALE:** Starting at \$4<sup>00</sup> yard  
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• **SHADE & BLIND SALE:** From \$4-\$20 each  
on various sizes & colors.

• thru March 30, 1998 • Limited Quantities • While Supplies Last •

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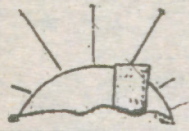
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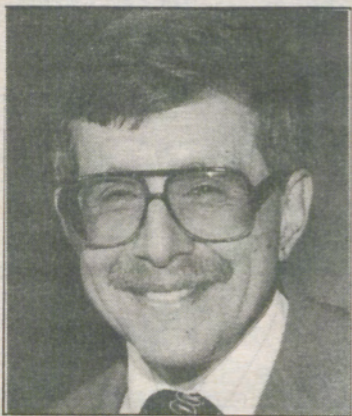




## Greenbelt's Business



Dr. Robert I. Bickford, president of Prince George's Community College (second from left), accepts a \$3,000 grant check from Christopher Zell (middle right), vice president of sales and marketing, Winchester Homes. The grant from the Weyerhaeuser Corporation Foundation will be used to fund the Winchester Homes Endowed Scholarship. Also representing Prince George's Community College were Dr. Isa N. Engleberg (left), vice president for advancement and planning, and Kinnard Wright (right), director of development.



### Dr. Granite Keeps Up with Specialty

David S. Granite, MD, who has a family practice in Roosevelt Center, has completed continuing medical education requirements to retain active membership in the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), the national association of family doctors.

AAFP members are required to complete a minimum of 150 hours of accredited continuing medical study every three years. The AAFP, which has more than 80,000 members, is one of the largest medical specialty organizations in the country. It was the first national medical group to require members to keep up with medical advancements through regular continuing medical education.

### PGCC Students May Win Winchester Aid

Prince George's Community College (PGCC) recently received a \$3,000 grant from the Weyerhaeuser Corporation Foundation through Winchester Homes, Inc.

The grant funds the Winchester Homes Endowed Scholarship, which offers eligible students \$500 in aid per semester.

The scholarships are offered to full-time students seeking a degree. Recipients must enroll in and maintain 12 credit hours during the semester of the award. They must have a household income of less than \$46,000 annually, show evidence of active participation in local community affairs and submit an additional essay describing one of the following: what an ideal home life should include or what the student can do to help PGCC. The deadline for applying for a fall 1998 scholarship is April 15.

For more information about the scholarships, contact Tom Hutchinson in the financial aid office at 301-322-0015.

### Realtor Adele Lewis Attends Conference

Adele P. Lewis, manager of the Greenbelt branch of Coldwell Banker Stevens, Realtors, recently attended the company's Northeast Sales Associates' Retreat, held in Atlantic City. The conference, which was designed to enhance the expertise of sales associates,

focused on topics from conducting business on the Internet and personal marketing to the future of the real estate business. Lewis was asked to participate in the Manager's Panel and to discuss leadership issues on recruiting and agent accountability.

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starts with  
being in the  
right place  
at the  
right time.**

### Career Night

Date: 3/19/98

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Place: 7213 Hanover Pkwy  
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### Join The Greenbelt Rotary Club

We Meet Every Thursday Morning at 7:30am-8:45am  
For Breakfast—Greenbelt Marriott on Ivy Lane  
Rotary is a community service organization of professional men and women who live or work in the Greenbelt Area.



For More Information

Call Martin McGehrin 301-982-5526 or Louis Pope 301-441-1100.

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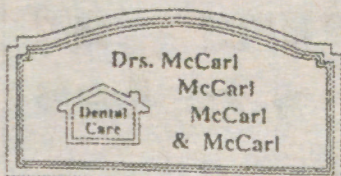


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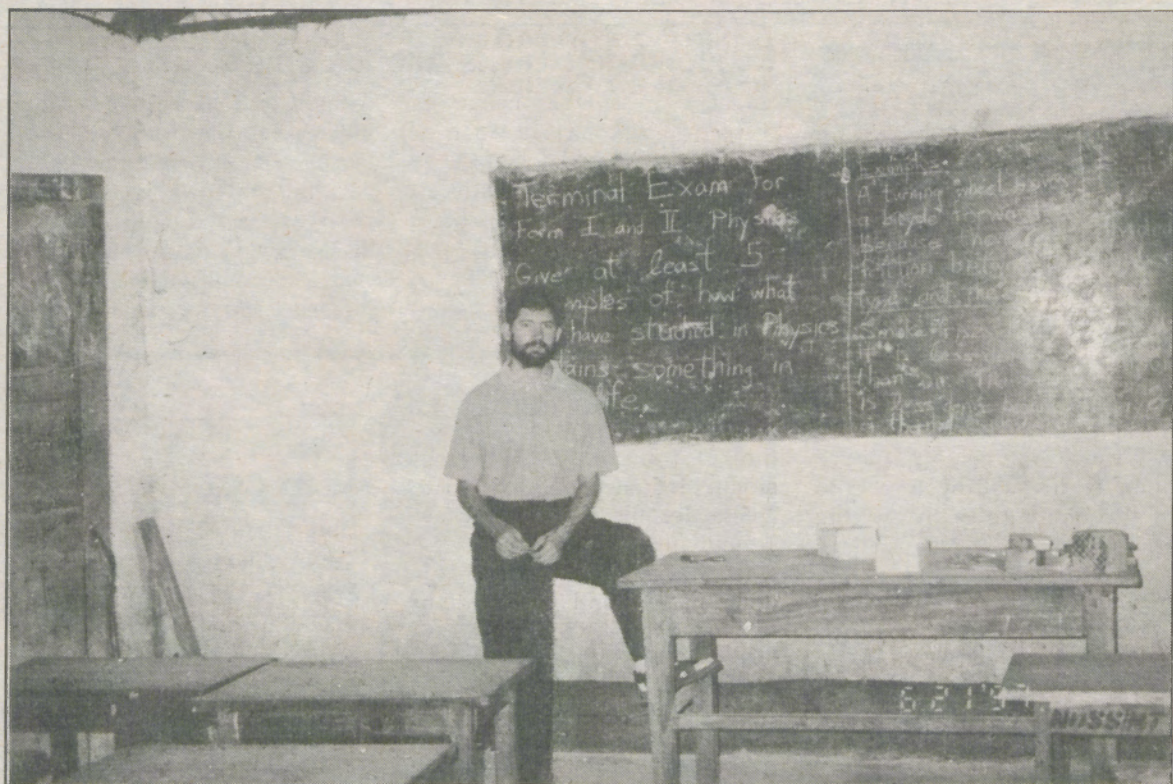
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Saturday	8-11:30





Alex Barnes, Greenbelter and Peace Corps volunteer, in his classroom at the Nanyamba Secondary School, Tanzania, East Africa.

## Alex Barnes — A Peace Corps Volunteer in Tanzania, Africa

by Sandra Lange

In September 1996, my son, Greenbelter Alex Barnes, joined the Peace Corps. He was sent to Tanzania, East Africa, to teach physics and math in a secondary school. Although Tanzania is a relatively stable country, it is one of the poorest in Africa. The Indian ocean forms its eastern border, with Kenya on the north and Mozambique on the south. Lake Tanganyika skirts its western border, separating it from countries such as Zaire, Zambia and Malawi. Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi are on its northwestern borders. Mt. Kilimanjaro and the Serengeti National Park are its primary tourist attractions.

Alex was part of a class of approximately 35 volunteers from around the country who spent a three-month orientation period in Arusha, Tanzania. They lived with host families, learned to speak Kiswahili, and absorbed the culture. After their training, they were each sent to a different locale. The Peace Corps sent Alex to the Nanyamba Secondary Day School located in a remote village in the southeastern part of Tanzania for his two-year term of service.

Alex is the first Peace Corps volunteer to be located in Nanyamba. Although the Peace Corps does an admirable job of preparing volunteers for the culture shock of living without telephones, electricity, running water or toilets — and of course, computers — it is very difficult to be the first person to represent your country, the Peace Corps, and yourself in a strange land. No one had preceded him to pave the way, so to speak, for the adjustment. No one prepared him for the personalities of the people he would meet or the specific problems of his locale or his school. No one helped him to establish his own household.

The school provided him with one part of a duplex, one-story house made of concrete. This is in contrast to the mud and thatch houses in which most of the villagers reside. He has a large concrete cistern to collect his water. He devised a way to arrange his gutters to collect rain water more efficiently. Many villagers must travel to a lake several miles away for water during the dry season and have no provisions for collecting large amounts of water during the rainy season. We sent Alex a

water purifier; the Peace Corps provides iodine tablets. He collects solar energy to heat water for bathing and has some solar devices to power batteries for his flashlight.

Health concerns are chief among the potential problems faced by Peace Corps volunteers. Each volunteer receives a medical kit. Malaria is the primary concern, and Alex takes pills on a weekly basis. Before arriving in the country, he had shots for yellow fever, tetanus and hepatitis A, among others. Semiannual check-ups are performed by Peace Corps doctors in Dar es Salaam. In Nanyamba, there is a health clinic operated by German missionaries.

When Alex first arrived in Nanyamba, he found his three-room house to be furnished with one table, several straight wooden chairs, and a bed. His kitchen, in a separate adjacent building, was a bare room. He had to hire someone to build him some shelves to store his food and other supplies. Then he placed the legs of the shelving unit in cans of water to trap the insects that crawled up it.

He purchased a small kerosene stove and a charcoal cooker, which he uses both for cooking and to boil water. The charcoal cooker is used more

frequently because charcoal is cheaper than kerosene, which is not always available.

His "bathroom" is part of a concrete building that is behind his house, across a small yard. The building is divided into four rooms. One is the "choo" which has a hole in the concrete floor that serves as the toilet; the second is the "bafu" or bath, which is a bare concrete area where you wash yourself with a bucket of water; the third is a storage area where Alex keeps his valuables such as his bicycle; and the fourth room is for general storage. Alex's pet chicken roosts there every night.

In June 1997, my husband David and I visited Alex. After a three-hour ride on a crowded vehicle similar to a school bus, along deeply rutted dirt roads, we arrived in Alex's village. His letters had prepared us for the lack of amenities. In one letter, he had advised us "to learn to squat."

We found the people to be very friendly and eager to welcome us. They brought us gifts of goat meat, papayas, oranges, cashews and pineapples. One of Alex's co-workers, another teacher, gave us a wood carving. When we walked to the village market, about two miles away, we were greeted by many people curious to know who we were and where we had come

is electricity in the largest cities, such as Dar es Salaam and Arusha, most of the country is rural. Electrification is not even expected in the next 10 years. Communication is difficult. In order for Alex to mail a letter to us, one of the teachers makes a weekly trip to the nearest town, Mtwara, a three-hour bus ride each way.

Alex's nearest Peace Corps volunteers are in Mtwara, east of Nanyamba, or in Nawala, which is a three-hour ride to the west of Nanyamba. The nearest telephone also is in Mtwara. Recently, Alex was notified by mail that he was urgently needed in Dar es Salaam. A letter came to him via the school in Nawala. No explanation was given as to why he was "urgently needed." He imagined that someone at home had died or that the Peace Corps was firing him for some unknown reason. He traveled by bus to Mtwara to use the telephone at the post office to call the Peace Corps headquarters in Dar es Salaam. They told him they were worried about him being alone during the December school break, as all the other Peace Corps volunteers had left their sites and were traveling around the country. Relieved, but frustrated, he returned to his home.

He has relieved his loneliness somewhat by acquiring a



Alex is seated beside the village elder with some of the village children behind them.

from. Little children followed us, staring at what must have seemed to them two very strange characters.

Tanzania is one of the least developed of the Third World African countries. While there

dog and a kitten. He named the dog Seryozha, a Russian name, perhaps because he has long wanted to live in Russia. He has made many friends among the Tanzanians, but he

Continued on next page



Alex heats water by collecting solar energy in a black bucket. Behind him is the building with his bath and toilet. On the wall is a sun dial clock that he devised.

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Alex prepares food outside, using the corrugated top of his cistern as a table. The gutters carry the rainwater into the cistern.

## Alex Barnes

(Continued from page 12)

misses the companionship of other Peace Corps volunteers, as well as his friends in Greenbelt. He also is busy with a very large garden and enjoys growing his own vegetables. He has learned to enjoy the local foods such as cassava roots.

Although his lifestyle is very similar to his neighbors, he is considered to be wealthy because he is a white American. Some people ask him for money, and he has become hardened to the plea, even of the most afflicted. His reasoning is that people have to learn to help themselves if they are to escape their poverty. He tells them that he is in Tanzania "to give them a hand up, not a hand-out."

Aside from the challenges of daily living, teaching has been the most demanding. His own education came from Eleanor Roosevelt High School's science and technology program. He graduated with honors from Penn State University's aerospace engineering program. He had no formal training as a teacher and was not prepared for students who learned by rote and who were accustomed to being beaten if they gave the wrong answer.

He conducts his classes in English, a requirement of the school. The common language of the country is Kiswahili. The students also have a tribal language. Admittedly, his first semester of teaching, from early morning to mid-afternoon, five days a week, was arduous. He felt discouraged mostly from his



Some of the 45 students who live at the girls dormitory of the Nanyamba Day Secondary School. The rainwater collection gutters and cistern are in the background.

inability to inspire the students to ask questions and to be curious about their environment. He reports that his second semester has been better. He, too, is learning along with his students.

His students would like to improve their English, and are seeking pen pals in America. Anyone who would like to have a Tanzanian pen pal should write to: Alex Barnes, Box 231, Nanyamba Secondary School, Mtwara, Tanzania, East Africa.

Recently, Alex's dad, Alexander Sr., and his brother David visited him. David is a cable television technician with Prince George's County's Community Television and the City of Greenbelt's Channel B-10.

## Self Help Program For the Widowed

Patuxent Widowed Persons Service is a nonprofit, self-help program, staffed by trained volunteers to serve the Prince Georges County area. It holds a six week support group for anyone widowed under eighteen months, as well as social events and monthly meetings on topics dealing with a wide variety of practical issues. These are open to all widowed people in the community by calling 301-464-6848. No need to survive alone.

The monthly meeting on March 14 features Lana Williams of Bowie speaking on "Let's Get Organized." Meetings are held at St. John's Lutheran Church in Riverdale, 2 p.m. The next support group starts on Thursday, May 21.

## Council and WMATA To Meet on Wednesday

In response to the city's request, representatives of WMATA (Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority) will meet with city council on Wednesday, March 11, at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center multipurpose room. While the agenda for the worksession is not yet set, council did list items they wish to discuss in their letter to WMATA last month. Included on that list is "plans for the use of the area around the Greenbelt METRO station by WMATA and/or other parties and public input on these plans." Other items on the city's list focused on such areas of concern as routing, speed and size of METRO buses and an estimate by WMATA of the success of the Greenbelt METRO station.

## City Notes

A large dead beaver was found at the recycling center on Monday.

The horticultural crew mulched trees and shrubs at Schrom Hills and Greenspring Parks and pruned young trees and shrubs in Roosevelt Center. They removed a hazardous tree on Lastner Lane and laid sod over the new drain at the Youth Center.

## Breast Cancer Awareness Program

"Check it Out," a breast cancer awareness program, will be held on March 13, 9:30 to 11 a.m. at Parkdale High School. The program is sponsored by the Greater Washington Area Chapter of Hadassah, Doctor's Community Hospital in Lanham and the American Cancer Society. For more information call Ina Shapiro, 301-345-1916.



## ERA Five Star Properties 301-699-3330

**HUGE Co-op! OPEN SUNDAY!**  
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**College Park —**  
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**3 bedroom with 2 story add. extra laundry room.** Patio and large shed in back yard. Quiet court. Ready to go! **\$52,900**

**3 BR end unit with central air and large addition.** Hardwood floors, washer and dryer. Great locat.-priced to sell at **\$54,900**

**New Listing - 2 bedroom middle unit that's been freshly painted.** Drop your suitcases and move in. Backs to woods! **\$46,900**

**3 bedrooms with new wall-to-wall carpet.** Sellers will pay up to **\$3,000** of your closing costs! **\$51,000**

**3 bedroom block end unit with lots of extras.** New paint, carpet and more. Just steps away from the center. See it! **\$63,900**

**2 BR Masonry END unit with ATTACHED GARAGE - renovated kitchen, new floors and more!** Great location & price - **\$64,900**

**UPPER LEVEL 1 1/2 bedroom with freshly painted interior. Exposed hardwood floors, washer & dryer, new bus stop.** **\$49,900**

**2 br frame with large deck with benches.** Refinished hardwood flrs. & more. **\$45,900**

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**Just Listed - 2 bedroom end unit with front addition.** Deep wooded yard with new fence. Lots of improvements! **\$45,900**

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- ♦ Mary C. Aranha, character education coordinator, MD State Department of Education
- ♦ Sharon Walters, curriculum coordinator, Eleanor Roosevelt High School
- ♦ Jacqueline Jones, special programs coordinator, Robert Goddard Middle School



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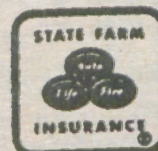
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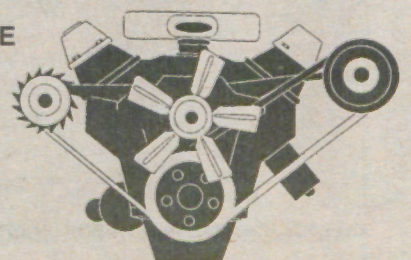
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## Czech

(Continued from page 1)

a hurry and have to get "there" fast so they take a car. I had already realized that a car is very important in life to Americans. It is a necessity. An aspect of America I like is the international cuisine. I have never had such a variety of food in my life. This is a country of white, black, red, yellow, and brown people mixed into the most colorful picture in the world for various reasons — to get a job, raise children, have freedom, and cook. A person can have Chinese, Italian, Indian, or Mexican food. I am still having problems when people ask me for my order. I never know what kind of food is hidden behind its name.

The fact that so many immigrants live here does not surprise me. What surprises me is that a lot of them do not speak English. I would expect whoever wants to live in an English-speaking country should learn and use its official language.

The U.S. is an exception, as I had already realized, because it is a "melting pot" of various communities, especially Latinos, Asians, and Africans. However, many groups continue to live in similar communities: Latinos with Latinos, Koreans with Koreans, and so on. They talk to each other in their own language.

"The more languages a person speaks, the more a person is," a Czech proverb reads. Many people all over the world learn English in school, so nobody expects Americans who travel to the Czech Republic to speak Czech. In this sense, Americans have an advantage, but really they are at a disadvantage. Americans are not pushed or forced to learn other languages. Therefore, they are limited in their ability to really learn or understand another country's customs and traditions.

Nevertheless, when a person knows English, everything seems easier since English is the number one language. Thus, in October, I enrolled in evening classes for three months at Eleanor Roosevelt High School to improve my English. Imagine about 15 people from different races and world religions who came to live in the U.S. trying to understand each other speaking English. That was our class.

In addition to the English course, I also started the General Education Diploma class in October at Greenbelt CARES. My teacher helps me prepare for all five parts of the test that I will be taking on March 16. I expect to pass it. With this diploma, I will have an opportunity to get a job at a newspaper when I return home.

I miss Prague. When I am homesick, I usually take a walk in the Buddy Attick Lake Park. The most beautiful sight is when the sun sets. There are no people, no animals, just trees, and the sun reflecting on the water's surface.

## Survey Evaluates Community Center

Two years in operation and many thousands served, the Greenbelt Community Center is in the process of evaluation by a graduate student from Cornell University's Department of City and Regional Planning. Next week surveys will be mailed to a random sample of Greenbelt citizens requesting that they rate their satisfaction with the Community Center.

Joe McNeal, Supervisor of the Community Center, has been working since last fall with Kieran Killeen, to develop the survey. "Citizens who frequently use the Center often suggest improvements in how it can better meet their needs," states McNeal. "We are at a point in our programming that we need more information on how our staff and facility must develop to be best used by the entire community. This survey will provide us important information."

Killeen describes the survey as easy to understand. "The survey is really a way to uncover how Greenbelt citizens feel about their community center. For those who receive the survey in their mailbox, it should take about ten minutes to complete and return to me in the mail. Completed surveys

will be analyzed by using urban planning techniques. This information should be ready for the community's review by this summer."

When Killeen was asked why he is helping the Community Center, he replied, "The Center School/Community Center is one of the best examples of community and educational planning of this century. The type of planning theory used to create Greenbelt also shaped places like Reston and Columbia; with proper evaluation, Greenbelt will continue to influence planned communities. With a strong survey response rate, the building will continue to be a rich resource for all of Greenbelt."

Questions call 607-257-7347 or Joe McNeal at 301-397-2208.

## College Scholarships

High school students with a grade point average of 'B' or better and college students with a GPA of B+ or better are eligible for a \$1,000 college scholarship. (U.S. citizens only). To receive an application, send a request by March 16 to Education, Communications Scholarship Foundation at 721 North McKinley Road, PO Box 5012, Lake Forest, IL 60045-5012; fax a request to 847-295-3972 or e-mail a request to "scholar@ecsf.org".

Include! student's name, permanent home address, current high school or college, approximate GPA, and year in school during 1997-98.

Scholarships will be awarded on the basis of academic performance, involvement in extracurricular activities, and consideration of financial need.

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